



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/506,650	02/17/2000	Kazuhiro Hara	SONY-T0189	6824
29175	7590	07/02/2004		
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD, LLC P. O. BOX 1135 CHICAGO, IL 60690-1135			EXAMINER TRAN, THIEN D	
			ART UNIT 2665	PAPER NUMBER 14
DATE MAILED: 07/02/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/506,650

**Applicant(s)**

HARA ET AL.

**Examiner**

Thien D Tran

**Art Unit**

2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Regarding claim 1, it is confused that a communication line defined as one-way communication in the "unidirectional communication line" is later the same line set for two-way communication in the "carrying out bi-directional communication".

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 1 recites the limitations "said communication line" in line 3, "the side for transmitting data" in claim 4, "the receiving side" in claim 5, "said transmitting side" in line 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being participated by Otten (U.S Patent No. 6,522,865 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Otten discloses a communication method on the Internet using a communication from DBS station transmitting to MSS satellite (unidirectional communication line), col.6 lines 1-15, comprising the steps of:

setting a route for receiving internet data using IP protocol (IP datagram) to be transmitted to said communication line at the side for transmitting data to said communication line, col.5 lines 60-67; and

setting another route for realizing a virtual communication route from the computer 1 (receiving side) to said MSS satellite to DBS station (transmitting side) on said communication line, for carrying out bi-directional communication, figure 1.

Regarding claims 2, 4 Otten discloses that communication line is the communication line via a satellite, figure 1.

Regarding claim 3, Otten discloses communication apparatus of a bridge type for carrying out communication using an IP protocol over an unidirectional communication line, comprising:

- a first interface for receiving IP datagram to be transmitted to said uni-directional communication line at the DBS station, col.8 lines 25-30; and

- a second interface for realizing a virtual communication route from the receiving side to said communication apparatus on said uni-directional communication line for carrying out bidirectional communication, figure 1.

Regarding claim 5, Otten discloses a communication method for connecting a second communication line capable of bi directional communication to MSS satellite or MSS ground station (bridge type) transmitting means for transmitting data to a first uni-directional communication line, thereby virtually carrying out the bi-directional communication over said first communication line, col 6 lines 5-35, comprising the step of:

- determining a destination of a packet inputted to said transmitting means through a predetermined interface, then determining which network the packet should be transferred to in accordance with the determined destination of the packet, and then

Art Unit: 2665

transferring the packet through a predetermined interface only when transfer is necessary, figure 7.

Regarding claims 6-8, 10-12 Otten discloses that transmitting means automatically detects addresses of nodes connected to the network at the transmitting side (col.8 lines 10-15).

Regarding claim 9, Otten discloses communication apparatus, which is designed as bridge type transmitting means for transmitting data to a first uni-directional communication line, comprising:

an interface connected to a second communication line capable of bi-directional communication, figure 1; and

control means for determining a destination of a packet inputted through a predetermined interface, then determining which network the packet is transferred to in accordance with the destination, and then executing transfer processing only when transfer is necessary, col.8 lines 10-15.

### ***Conclusion***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Thien Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-4388. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (703) 308-6602. Any inquiry of a general nature

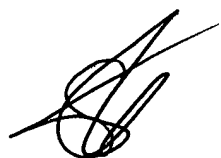
Application/Control Number: 09/506,650

Page 6

Art Unit: 2665

of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Thien Tran



STEVEN NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER